

HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



HOSPITALS

THE *Literary Digest* has translated and published part of an article written by Dr. E. Marandon de Montyel, medical director of the Asylum of Ville Evrard, in the *Revue Philanthropique*, Paris, February 10, describing the open-door treatment of the insane, from which we quote the following:

"The new treatment is the exact opposite of the old. The closed asylums are replaced by buildings with open doors, without walls, exterior or interior, or covered galleries, and arranged in the form of a village, where the harmless patients, constituting sixty or seventy per cent., may circulate freely, while the thirty or forty per cent. of dangerous ones are kept in villas closed only with ordinary locks and a neat grating. But it is not only the establishment that the open door transforms; its effect is seen especially in the treatment, which continues as much as possible the ordinary life of the patient. The visits of friends and relatives are encouraged; they may take their meals with the inmates in a room which resembles a restaurant, may walk with them, and during the course of the treatment may take them home for days. During convalescence these home visits may last for months. There is absolute liberty in writing and an abolition of all punishment except restriction of liberty, which is the only means used to preserve order."

It is stated by Dr. Montyel that under this method escapes are less frequent than under that of the closed door. He goes on to say:

"If facts do not prove the error of incarcerating insane patients, a little reflection might do it. Every lunatic is at bottom a melancholiac; the gayest of them is seeking to drown his melancholy and weeps oftener than he laughs. Must it not increase his melancholy, convincing one patient that he is a knave and another that he is a victim, to confine them in a condition altogether different from that to which they have been accustomed, to deprive them of all initiative, and force them to a passive obedience worse than that of a barrack because it is more perpetual? Assuredly it must, for, although they are madmen, they have not ceased to be men. Everything in an asylum should tend, on the contrary, to drive away sadness and induce gaiety. As the joyous music of David dispelled the melancholy of Saul, so all the surroundings of the insane patient, everything he sees and hears, should have the same object."

THERE is a plan on foot for building a great municipal hospital in the city of Washington, D. C., to be composed of a group of thirty-seven buildings, including an administration building, a surgical building, pathological building, nurses' home, domestic service building, superintendent's house, ambulance stable, and fourteen two-story ward buildings. The tuberculosis hospital will consist of two large and one small ward building, and the contagious hospital will consist of an administration building, domestic service building, nurses' home, and four large ward buildings. There will be a central lighting and heating plant. Should the whole hospital be completed in accordance with the present plans it will accommodate about one thousand one hundred and fifty patients.

As Washington is already abundantly supplied with hospitals, such an expenditure of public money seems unequalled for.

THE Cumberland-Street Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., was reopened in July under the direct supervision of the Bureau of Charities. This institution has been closed since 1899, when the trustees of the hospital transferred it to the city. It has since been enlarged, renovated, and refurnished, and has now a capacity of about three hundred patients.

The Training-School is under the supervision of Miss Isabel Barrows, graduate of the Kings County Hospital Training-School. The institution will be conducted entirely as a homœopathic hospital so far as the treatment of the patients is concerned, otherwise the management will be identical with that of the Kings County Hospital.

THE corner-stone of the new Crozier Homœopathic Hospital was laid July 17, at Chester, Pa., in the presence of a large number of physicians of both schools and many interested friends. After appropriate religious services, the actual laying of the stone was done by the widow of the founder, Mrs. Mary S. Crozier. Half a million dollars has been left for the building, which will be of Avondale granite, and equipped with every modern improvement and appliance.

THE Massachusetts State Board of Insanity is preparing to build a hospital at Gardner where chronic cases shall be cared for. This will relieve the hospitals for the insane throughout the State of a great burden of care, and provide for a more thorough classification, making room for greater numbers of the curable insane. The plan is on the colony system, and it is estimated that one hundred patients a year will be transferred to the new institution.

THE Municipal Council of Paris has laid before a special commission a plan to equip a sanatorium on one of the properties of the Assistance Publique, with capacity of fifty beds, for the exclusive use of those nurses who may have contracted tuberculosis in their service.

A WOMAN house surgeon will be appointed each year on the staff of the Toronto General Hospital. Two women physicians will also be appointed as registrars.

TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES

ON July 1 Miss Elizabeth Ramsden took her place as superintendent of the Delaware Hospital, Wilmington, Del., succeeding Miss J. C. Wilson, resigned. At the same time Miss Ada B. Shaw became superintendent of nurses in place of Miss Mary Reifsnyder, resigned. Miss Ramsden is a graduate of the Training-School for Nurses of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Class of 1898, and has had the advantage of being trained by such prominent women as Miss M. E. P. Davis, Miss Helena Barnard, Miss Roberta West, and Miss Linda Richards. Miss Shaw graduated number one in her class at the Philadelphia Hospital, and has for the past eight years had charge of the Meadville Hospital, Meadville, Pa., and is a member of the Superintendents' Association.

MISS ISABEL McISAAC has been granted a five-months' leave of absence, and will sail the latter part of the month for a trip abroad. There are to be several important changes in the Illinois Training-School at this time. Miss Grant, who has been the assistant in charge of the Presbyterian Hospital, resigns, to return to her own home in Scotland. The managers of the school in expressing their appreciation of her faithful services for thirteen years presented her with

a diamond brooch. Miss Higbee also resigns, after eight-years' service, to take care of an invalid mother. Miss Breeze will be the acting superintendent during Miss McIsaac's absence. Miss Euphemia McIsaac will have charge at the Presbyterian Hospital, and Miss Briggs will take Miss Higbee's place.

WE hear of a training-school at the Mahoning Valley Hospital at Youngstown, O., where there is a preparatory school for young women who are too young to enter the nurses' training-school. In this school the pupils pay for their instruction, clothing, and books. They are taught practical housekeeping, anatomy, physiology, materia medica, chemistry, and Latin. This would seem to be a step in the right direction, and it would be interesting to know the actual practical results of the experiment.

MISS ALICE A. GORMAN has resigned as assistant superintendent of the training-school and teacher of dietaries at the Massachusetts General Hospital, from which school she is a graduate. Miss Gorman is one of the first class to graduate from the course in hospital economics at Teachers College. She will spend the coming winter in the South.

MISS JEAN McNELLY, who has been at Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, O., for four years, has resigned her position of night superintendent and has accepted a position on the Visiting Nurse Association staff, of Cleveland. Miss McNelly makes the fourth nurse who has been added to the association since its organization in the spring of 1902.

MISS M. HELENA McMILLAN, B.A., has resigned as superintendent of the Training-School of the Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, O., and is to be succeeded by Miss Maude Ellis, a graduate of the Massachusetts General Hospital school, who for several years has had charge of the nursing at the Tewkesbury Almshouse, Mass.

MISS AUGUSTA C. ROBERTSON, who recently resigned as superintendent of nurses of St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, has been appointed to succeed Miss Ellis at the Tewkesbury State Hospital, Mass. Miss Robertson is a graduate of the Massachusetts General Hospital School for Nurses.

MISS REBECCA CROSS, assistant to the superintendent of nurses and matron at Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, O., has resigned her position. Miss Cross has returned to Montreal and intends to rest for a time.

MRS. SANDERS'S ILLNESS.—Nurses who are graduates of the Illinois Training-School will all hear with regret and concern that Mrs. Sanders, the house mother and mainstay of the school, is now ill in the Presbyterian Hospital, where she has undergone a surgical operation. Mrs. Sanders, with her characteristic vitality, rallied well and is making satisfactory progress. All who know her will wish her complete restoration to health and long-continued activity in the school upon which for so many years she has stamped her own marvellous energy and stanch virtues.—L. D. D.

